THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) The details are as under:

Year	MMSCMD production
1991-92	51·08
1992-93	49.48
1993-94	50.23

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The production during April—December, 1994 was 53.80 MMSCMD.

(d) and (e) A number of gas field development schemes e·g·, S—1 Sand, South Heera Phase-II, Gandhar Phase-II etc· are under implementation· The development of fields such as B 55, B 173 A etc· also under consideration·

Research work fo. Petroleum and Natural Gas in Andhra Pradesh

492· SHRI T· VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the names of places in Andhra Pradesh where research work for Petroleum and Natural Gas resources is going on?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): ONGC is engaged in exploration and production activities in Andhra Pradesh covering districts of East Godavari, West Godavari and Krishna· Any specific R&D work pertaining to these areas is carried out in the R&D Institutes of ONGC·

Allotment of Petrol, Diesel and LPG agencies

493. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Petrol/Diesel retail outlets and LPG Agencies allotted during the current financial year so far, Statewise;

(b) the number out of these allotted to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/ backward class/handicapped, educated unemployed and ex-personnel of armed forces and para-military forces, separately;

(c) whether Government propose to allot more Petrol/Diesel retail outlets and LPG Agencies during the remaining period of current financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) During April, 1994 to January, 1995, 418 Retail Outlet dealerships and 430 LPG distributorships were allotted all over

the country. Category-wise details are indicated below:—

	SC	ST	PH	DEF	OPEN
RO	74	45	33	22	244
LPG	80	30	38	20	262

There is no reservation for backward classes, educated unemployed category, Ex-Armed personnel and para military forces. These are included in the Open, Defence and PH category respectively.

(c) and (d) 1519 Retail Outlet dealerships and 623 LPG distributorships have been included in the Marketing Plans 1988—93 and 1992—94 respectively. Selection of dealers/ distributors is currently underway through the Oil Selection Boards.

Permission to Airlines to import aviation turbine fuel

494. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:

SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines and some private airlines have approached the Central Government for granting them permission to directly import aviation turbine fuel;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the grant of such permission is likely to have any adverse effect on foreign exchange position; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) Indian Airlines and Private Airlines have requested Indian Oil Corporation for assistance in handling their ATF imports against special import licences, available under Government Scheme. Indian Oil Corporation will import ATF against the said licences, on behalf of the Airlines, on commercial terms.

Consortium for crude oil exploration in cauveri basin

495. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a consortium of three crude oil exploration companies, led by Vaalco Energy Inc. of USA has recently signed a production sharing contract with Government of India for exploration block under the fourth round located at the Cauveri basin in the East Coast;

(b) if so, what are the names of those companies; and

(c) the terms and conditions under which such a contract has been signed with three crude oil exploration companies by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) A production sharing contract has been signed on